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CHICAGO, ILL.
NEWS

E-466,424

AUG 28 1967

CIA Wants Lie Bill Sent Back to Secret Hearing

by James K. Batten ✓
Chicago Daily News Service

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency, in a highly unusual move, has quietly asked the Senate Judiciary Committee to hear its private objections to a bill already reported to the Senate for action.

The bill is a measure designed to safeguard the privacy of government employes from unwarranted intrusions. Among other things, it would limit the use of lie-detector and psychiatric tests by all federal agencies, including the CIA.

CIA officials, whose identity could not be learned,

contacted Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), the Judiciary Committee chairman, and Sen. Birch Bayh, (D-Ind.) to request a secret hearing on the agency's objections.

Eastland promptly passed along the CIA's request to the other committee members. He also distributed a letter from Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) principal sponsor of the privacy bill.

Ervin's letter to Eastland warned that recommitment of the bill would "set an unusual pre-

cedent." But Ervin said he would be willing to have the

CIA testify in a public session.

IN AN INTERVIEW, Ervin elaborated his position.

"They apparently don't want any law applied to them," he said. "They seem to think they ought not to be accountable for anything."

As for the hearings requested by the CIA, Ervin declared, "I'm opposed to secret hearings. It's ridiculous to ask for secret hearings on legislation affecting the rights of Americans."

Twice during committee consideration of the bill, he went on, the CIA was invited to testify. On both occasions, the invitation was declined, he said.

THE CIA apparently is most concerned about the bill's limitations on its use of lie-detector and psychiatric examinations, devices used to screen applicants for CIA jobs.

Ervin's original bill prohibited any federal agency, including the CIA and the equally sensitive National Security Agency, from asking any employee or job applicant about his sex life, his religion or his family relationships as part of a lie-detector test.

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